Pension to elderly persons and divorced women

†1305. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any plan to provide monthly pension to the people above the age of sixty years, who belong to poor and weaker sections of the society including divorced women;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the States in which this plan is being implemented; and

(c) the number of poor persons, who are being benefited from the above plan, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) and (b) The monthly pension to destitute older persons is being provided by various State Governments under National Old Age Pension Scheme (NOAPS), for which Additional Central Assistance at the rate fo Rs. 75/- per month per beneficiery is given. The State Governments can increase the rate of pension by arranging additional funds from their own resources.

(c) The State-wise information of beneficiaries is given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

Number of Beneficiaries reported by the States under National Old Age Pension Scheme (NOAPS)

Status/UTs2004-05	
Andhra Pradesh	466000
Arunachal Pradesh	Not Reported
Assam	299005
Bihar	493696
Chhattisgarh	165730
Goa	3731
Gujarat	Not Reported

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Status/UTs2004-05	
Haryana	994766
Himachal Pradesh	22700
J&K	**Not Reported**
Jharkhand	166236
Karnataka	477409
Kerala	**Not Reported**
Madhya Pradesh	448363
Maharashtra	819523
Manipur	**Not Reported**
Meghalaya	34086
Mizoram	10525
Nagaland	28053
Orissa	493090
Punjab	**Not Reported**
Rajasthan	533137
Sikkim	10104
Tamilnadu	467935
Tripura	69469
Uttar Pradesh	299019
Uttaranchal	42326
West Bengal	291671
TOTAL :	6636574

National Policy for persons with disability

1306. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are working on a National Policy for the Persons with Disability;

(b) if so, the features thereof;